Please return this slip to a messenger PROMPTLY. Senate Sergeant-At-Arms State Capitol - B35 South P.O.Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882	Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:	Registering Against:  but <u>not</u> speaking:	Registering in Favor: but <u>not</u> speaking:	Speaking Against:	Speaking in Favor:	(Representing)	(City and Zip Code)	(Street Address or Route Number)	(NAME) C. Rothschild	SUBJECT	BILL NO. 58 340	DATE: 1/15/02	SENATE HEARING SLIP	<b>&gt;</b>
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Madison, WI 53707-7882

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KARD MEMBER



## State of Wisconsin

Scott McCallum, Governor

## Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

James E. Harsdorf, Secretary

January 14, 2002

Senator Dave Hansen PO Box 7882 Room 19 South, State Capitol Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Hansen:

I am writing to support Senate Bill 340 and its companion Assembly Bill 676, relating to veterinary postgraduate training permits.

As you are aware, the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) is the agency responsible for animal health in the state of Wisconsin. DATCP is committed and vigilant in its watch, and relies heavily on a partnership with the state's veterinarians.

Veterinarians play a critical role in the identification, treatment and control of animal disease in the state. Therefore DATCP does not take lightly any change in the training or credentialing of veterinarians practicing in the state.

Under the scope of this legislation, I believe the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine and Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board can adequately identify and credential qualified graduate veterinarians for postgraduate training permits.

Sincerely,

James E. Harsdorf

Secretary

JEH/km

Cc. Senate Committee on Labor and Agriculture

## UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN—MADISON

## School of Veterinary Medicine

Office of the Dean 2015 Linden Drive West Madison, WI 53706-1102

> Phone: 608/263-6716 Fax: 608/265-6748

## **2001 Senate Bill 340**

## Senate Committee on Labor and Agriculture Hearing Date: January 15, 2001 Testimony of Rachel C. Rothschild, Assistant Dean School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Thank you Senator Hansen and members of the Senate Committee on Labor and Agriculture for receiving testimony on SB 340 today. My name is Rachel Rothschild and I am an Assistant Dean at the UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine. One of my responsibilities is to be the school's liaison with the Veterinary Examining Board on matters related to licensing of veterinarians who are employees or graduates of the school. Accompanying me today from the school, and available to answer questions related to SB 340, is Dr. Dale Bjorling, a veterinarian and Chair of the school's Department of Surgical Sciences.

As you know, SB 340 was introduced at the request of the Department of Regulation and Licensing, the Veterinary Examining Board and the UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine. The bill also enjoys the support of the Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association (WVMA), which is the professional association for Wisconsin's veterinarians.

I would like, with brief testimony, to explain why SB 340 is before you and what will change if the bill becomes law. Initially let me explain that postgraduate trainees, eligible for the permit that is the subject of this bill, are graduate veterinarians pursuing advanced, specialty training, typically residency programs of three years duration.

I have tried to anticipate what information will be most helpful and what questions you might have, and I will address the following points.

- Why has SB 340 been requested?
- What is the context in which we seek a change in the veterinary licensing law?
- Who will benefit from the proposed change in the law?
- Will SB 340 lessen the consumer protection effect of current veterinary licensing law?

## Two reasons for requesting introduction of SB 340

- Current section 453.06 is outdated in that it requires specific examinations that are no longer given. The National Board Examination and Clinical Competency Test have been replaced.
- Since the statute needs to be updated, the school is requesting that national exams no longer be required of veterinarians applying for postgraduate training permits. This change will improve the school's ability to compete equally with peer veterinary medical schools for the best, qualified postgraduate trainees.

## **General Background Information**

- All veterinarians treating privately owned animals at the school are required to be licensed in Wisconsin. This applies equally to faculty and resident trainees, and there are options for gaining a Wisconsin license, including postgraduate training permits. SB 340 will not change the requirement that veterinarians at the school be licensed in the state.
- Most veterinarians coming to the school apply for a license based on examinations they took
  when they graduated, or based on being licensed in another state (license by endorsement).
   SB 340 will not result in any change in this situation.
- Some very well qualified applicants for residency training do not qualify for these types of licenses. These individuals are typically graduates of foreign veterinary medical schools who do not take American national exams. They may be foreign nationals or Americans who have attended veterinary medical schools overseas.
- Wisconsin competes with the 26 other American schools of veterinary medicine to attract and recruit the best, qualified candidates from among a limited pool of veterinarians who apply for residency or postgraduate specialty training. With adoption of SB 340, we hope to improve our competitive position through eliminating the examination requirement for those few residency candidates each year who do not qualify for a license by exam or endorsement, but rather need to obtain a postgraduate training permit.
- Academic veterinary medicine is a small field, and is very international. In some specialty areas there are shortages of applicants for residency training programs. Wisconsin wants to have its pick from among the best candidates.
- There are 27 American schools of veterinary medicine. Currently, the UW-Madison school is one of only six schools in five states that require the national exam in order for resident trainees to be licensed in the state. (The 5 states are Alabama, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Texas and Wisconsin) Fifteen American schools are in states that do not require university-employed veterinarians to be licensed at all. Most of Wisconsin's peer veterinary schools are in these fifteen states. The remaining six schools require a license, but not the national exams.

## Who Will Benefit From The Proposed Change?

With regard to individual license applicants, a couple of people per year will be able to pursue residency training here who would not otherwise be eligible for a license. We recruit only 6-8 new resident trainees each year, and the great majority of them qualify for license by exam or endorsement. Clients of the veterinary medical teaching hospital (i.e., members of the animal owning public), veterinary medical students and referring veterinarians all benefit when the school successfully recruits the best available candidates for residency training positions.

## Will The Public Still Be Protected If SB 340 Is Adopted?

Yes. Veterinarians who practice on privately-owned animals are and will continue to be under the jurisdiction of the Veterinary Examining Board, and therefore subject to disciplinary action. Applicants for residency training programs routinely participate in a rigorous national matching program and are screened by the university based on credentials, experience and letters of reference. Resident trainees see client owned animals under the supervision of a licensed faculty member. Postgraduate training permits are limited, allowing only veterinary practice that is undertaken within the scope of the school's residency training program, and they expire upon the permit holder's completion of the training program.

Thank you for your attention and consideration of this matter.

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING

Scott McCallum Governor Oscar Herrera Secretary



1400 East Washington Avenue PO Box 8935 Madison WI 53708-8935

> Email: dorl@drl.state.wi.us Voice: 608-266-2112 FAX: 608-267-0644 TTY: 608-267-2416

## Statement of: The Department of Regulation and Licensing and Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board Regarding Testimony on 2001 Senate Bill 340 Before the Senate Committee on Labor and Agriculture Tuesday, January 15, 2002, 10:00 A.M.

Good morning, Chairman Hansen and committee members. Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today and testify in support of Senate Bill 340.

My name is Myra Shelton and I am the Executive Assistant and Legislative Liaison at the Department of Regulation and Licensing. I am testifying today in support of SB 340 on behalf of Secretary Oscar Herrera. Also, testifying with me in support of SB 340 is Dr. William Bartlett, DVM board member of the Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board, and Rachel Rothschild, Assistant Dean of the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine.

Senate Bill 340 and its companion Assembly Bill 676 are a legislative initiative of the Veterinary Examining Board that the Department, University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine, and Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association support.

We would like to publicly thank Senator David Hansen and Representative Alvin Ott for agreeing to be author(s) of the bill(s) and all of the Senate and Assembly legislators that signed on as bill sponsors.

Basically, SB 340 changes the current law requirements for issuing a Veterinary postgraduate training permit by:

• Eliminating the requirement that an applicant has either completed the National licensing examination, be scheduled for the examination or be awaiting for the results of the examination, and eliminating the requirement that an applicant hold the degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine if the applicant holds an equivalent degree.

The rationale for the proposed statute changes is:

• To give the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine the same competitive tools that other U.S. schools of Veterinary Medicine enjoy when they seek to attract international veterinary graduates for postgraduate (residency) training, and to allow applicants that hold an equivalent degree to the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree to hold a veterinary postgraduate training permit. Please see the attached bill chart.

We do believe that the proposed changes to the veterinary statutes are in the best interest of the public and hope the bill receives your vote of support. Again, thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today on this very important piece of legislation.

Attachment: Bill Chart

# CHANGE PROPOSED IN THE REGULATION OF VETERINARIANS AND VETERINARY TECHNICIANS

# CURRENT LAW

# PROPOSED CHANGE

# REASON FOR CHANGE

Under current Section 453.06, Stats., the board may grant a postgraduate training permit to a person undertaking intern or resident training at the U.W. School of Veterinary Medicine, if he or she has received a doctoral degree in veterinary medicine; and has either completed the national licensing examination, is scheduled for the examination or is waiting for the results of the examination. The exclusive purpose of the credential is to permit postgraduate education, and the holder must practice only within the scope of the permit holder's residency or internship program.

The proposed change would eliminate the requirement that the applicant have either completed the national licensing examination, be scheduled for the examination or be awaiting for the results of the examination. The change would also eliminate the requirement that the applicant hold the degree of doctor of veterinary medicine if the applicant holds an equivalent degree.

Elimination of the requirement that an applicant for a postgraduate training permit have completed or be scheduled for the national licensing examination will give the UW-Madison School of Veterinary medicine the same competitive advantage that other U.S. schools of veterinary medicine enjoy when they seek to attract international veterinary graduates for postgraduate (residency) training.

A number of European and Asian countries grant degrees in veterinary medicine which are equivalent to the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree, but which are not designated as such. Great Britain, Australia and Japan, for example grant the BVSc degree (Bachelor of Veterinary Science). Under the proposed change, such persons would not be prohibited from holding a training permit.

## Senate

## Committee on Labor and Agriculture Senator Dave Hansen, Chair

## PAPER BALLOT

Date:

January 15, 2002

Bill:

Senate Bill 340 -- Relating to veterinary postgraduate training permits.

Motion:

**Passage** 

Moved by: Hansen

Seconded by: Baumgart

Senator Sheila Harsdorf

Please return to Senator Hansen's office (by messenger) by 5 pm TODAY (1/15/02).

Please call the Committee Clerk, Lisa Ellinger, at 266-5670 if you have any questions.

## Senate

## Committee on Labor and Agriculture Senator Dave Hansen, Chair

## PAPER BALLOT

Date:

January 15, 2002

Bill:

Senate Bill 340 -- Relating to veterinary postgraduate training permits.

Motion:

**Passage** 

Moved by: Hansen

Seconded by: Baumgart

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## Vote Record

## **Senate - Committee on Labor and Agriculture**

Date:	340	Seconded by: Clearinghouse Rule: Appointment: Other:	Baumart	
AR: SR: A/S Amdt:  A/S Amdt:  A/S Sub Amdt:  A/S Amdt:  A/S Amdt:  Be recommended for:  Passage Introduction  Adoption  Rejection	to A/S Amdt: to A/S Sub Amdt: to A/S Amdt:	Indefinite Postpon Tabling Concurrence Nonconcurrence Confirmation	to A/S Sub Amdt: to A/S Sub Amdt:	
Committee Member Sen. David Hansen, Chair Sen. Russell Decker Sen. Jim Baumgart Sen. Alan Lasee Sen. Sheila Harsdorf	Totals:	Aye No	Absent Not Voting	
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